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# news release

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## CANADA-U.S. RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENCES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark and the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Benoît Bouchard today announced that Canada and the United States have reached a bilateral understanding on the reciprocal recognition of commercial drivers licences.

"The understanding typifies the ability of Canada and the United States to work together creatively for their mutual benefit. It means that Canadian commercial drivers can operate in the United States without having to procure any U.S. driver permits and the same applies to U.S. drivers operating in Canada," said Mr. Clark.

The understanding eliminates a potential obstacle to transborder transportation. It will enhance the commercial and trade ties so vital to the economies of both countries. "It will facilitate the transportation relationship between Canada and the U.S., so crucial to the implementation of the historic Free Trade Agreement", said Mr. Bouchard.

Since July 1, 1987, it has been illegal for drivers in the United States to hold more than one commercial drivers licence. These measures were introduced to enhance highway safety. In Canada, all provinces have had legislation in place for some time prohibiting drivers of commercial vehicles from

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